



USAID | MACEDONIA
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



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PRESS RELEASE

U.S. development assistance to Macedonia tops \$450 million

Event to be marked by photo competition and exhibit in four Macedonian cities starting with show at Mala Stanica in Skopje

Skopje- The American people, through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), have invested more than \$450 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is a part of the U.S. Mission to Macedonia. To mark this milestone USAID will host four exhibitions of photography in cooperation with galleries and houses of culture across Macedonia.

The Skopje exhibit opens to the public on February 22nd at 7:00 pm at Skopje's newest multi media center "Mala Stanica". Live music will be performed by local jazz band "Lete~ki peki onejzeri". The exhibition will run until 26th of February,

"USAID has a proud history of working side by side with experts, government and non government institutions, Macedonian companies, volunteers, students and non-government organizations," said Dick Goldman, USAID Mission Director. "The Traveling Exhibit is an opportunity to celebrate some of the highlights of this partnership in an artistic and informal manner."

Five prizes for the best photos will be awarded during the grand opening. The exhibit, organized in collaboration with Mala Stanica, includes 40 photographs selected from hundreds submitted by Macedonian and American amateur photographers. The photos were all taken in the context of USAID projects over the past 13 years. Prominent photographer, Andon Davcev, President of the Union of Photo Reporters of Macedonia headed the jury which selected the award winning photographs.

The exhibition will travel to Bitola, Stip, and Struga in March, April and May. Its final destination will be USAID's headquarters in Skopje, where it will be on permanent exhibit as a testimony to Macedonian-American partnership.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested more than \$450 million in Macedonia since 1993. More than 30 projects worth \$35 million a year are currently being implemented. These projects are designed to support Macedonia's transition to a free market-based, multi-ethnic democracy. They include initiatives to accelerate economic growth, develop democratic

institutions, and educate citizens for a modern economy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>